



"There is a notion, which has to do with the romantic hero image, that writing is pure genius, and you can't teach it. . . Bread Loaf, in fact, has been going for a very long time and has a very good record of helping extremely talented writers to become solid artists."

JOHN GARDNER

"Isolation and insecurity can combine to kill you when you're starting out. I was a twenty-two-year-old plumber in Concord, New Hampshire, and had never met a writer, when I lugged my novel manuscript to Bread Loaf, hoping to get Nelson Algren to take a look and tell me I wasn't crazy. He did both, and that fueled me for the long haul. I have to believe it made me a writer."

RUSSELL BANKS



"When I came to Bread Loaf as an unpublished neophyte, initially I felt as out of place as if I'd just fallen off the turnip truck. But that year I met teachers who helped me enormously. Later I also met my agent and the fellow writers who have become my best friends."

ANDREA BARRETT

Bread Loaf WRITERS' CONFERENCE

MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE
Middlebury, Vermont 05753

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Bread Loaf MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE AUGUST 16-27, 2006 WRITERS' CONFERENCE



Bread Loaf

WRITERS' CONFERENCE



Claire Messud's workshop gathers near the Davison Memorial Library.

**AUGUST 16-27, 2006
MIDDLEBURY COLLEGE**



Dilruba Ahmed prepares for her workshop.

Founded in 1926, Bread Loaf is the oldest writers' conference in the country. Every session, we welcome new Bread Loafers in the Little Theatre where, in 1928, Stephen Vincent Benét and Sinclair Lewis read from their work, and where, in 1945, Richard Wright introduced *Native Son* to a spell-bound audience. Faculty and students confer in front of the huge field-stone fireplace in the barn where the young Eudora Welty bent over *A Curtain of Green* with her mentor, Katherine Anne Porter. One can hike trails where Robert Frost habitually tramped, noting how birch trees "bend to left and right / Across the lines of straighter darker trees," or play tennis on the clay courts

where Theodore Roethke played against Randall Jarrell while W.H. Auden looked on from a deep green Adirondack chair.

Bread Loaf continues its rich literary and intellectual tradition by gathering a talented and diverse faculty — among them MacArthur fellows and winners of the National Book Award and the Pulitzer Prize — to work closely with developing writers. We invite you to experience the inspiration, the challenge, and the fun of Bread Loaf. It's a place to share manuscripts, get advice from experienced writers, and meet agents, editors, and the next generation of important writers.

THE PROGRAM

Writing workshops in fiction, poetry, and nonfiction are at the core of the curriculum. Each faculty member conducts a small workshop, most often of ten contributors, meeting for five two-hour sessions over the course of the Conference. All participants also meet individually with their workshop leaders to amplify and refine what was said in the workshop itself.

Faculty offer lectures on writerly issues and one-hour classes on specific aspects of craft. Readings by faculty and guests are scheduled in the Little Theatre throughout the day and into the night. Guests in publishing — editors and literary agents — present information and answer questions. They also meet with Bread Loafers in small groups.



The Little Theatre, where Bread Loafers attend lectures, readings, and special talks.



Xochiquetzal Candelaria in conversation with April Ossmann, executive director of Alice James Books. Bread Loafers may sign up formally for individual or group meetings with editors and agents.

APPLICATIONS

■ You may apply to the Conference by submitting a writing sample along with an application form. You are also welcome to apply as an auditor. There is no application fee. General contributor and auditor applications must be postmarked by March 20, but applicants are strongly encouraged to apply early.

■ We offer three types of financial aid (fellowships, tuition scholarships, and work-study scholarships), based on published work and/or literary promise. Financial aid applications must be postmarked by March 1, but applicants are strongly encouraged to apply early.

■ Conference fees: \$2,164 contributors; \$2,074 auditors. Includes room and board.

■ Please visit our web site or contact us for an application and informational brochure.

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Web site: <http://www.middlebury.edu/blwc>

LODGING AND MEALS

Bread Loafers are housed on the mountain campus of Middlebury College in Ripton, Vermont, in the Bread Loaf Inn and its cluster of cottages and buildings. Most rooms on campus are doubles and baths are shared. Meals are served in the dining room of the Inn. There's a well-stocked salad bar, and vegetarian options are available. A list of local rentals is available to those who prefer off-campus housing and meals.

Bread Loaf

WRITERS' CONFERENCE

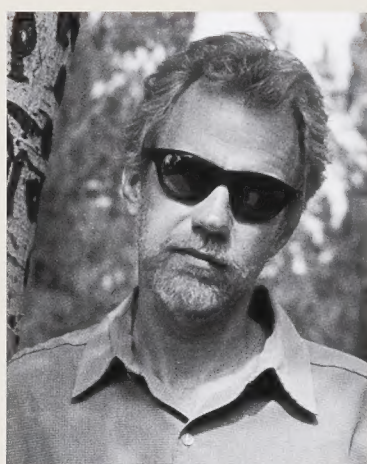
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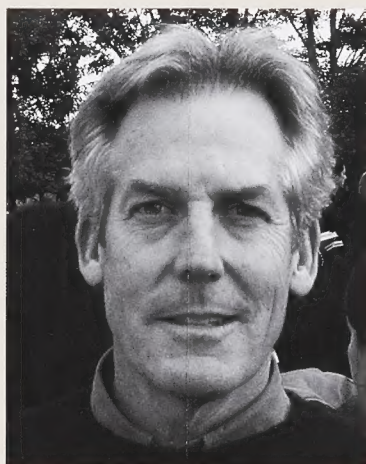
David Baker



Linda Bierds



Robert Boswell



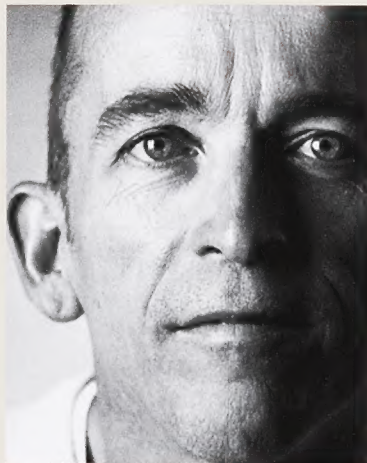
Michael Collier



Ted Conover



Toi Derricotte



Mark Doty



Percival Everett



Linda Gregerson



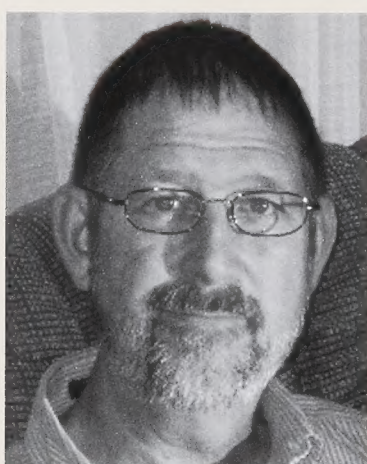
Ursula Hegi



Randall Kenan



William Kittredge



Kevin McIlvoy



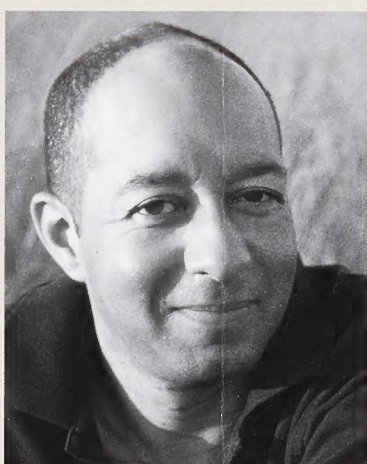
Antonya Nelson



Josip Novakovich



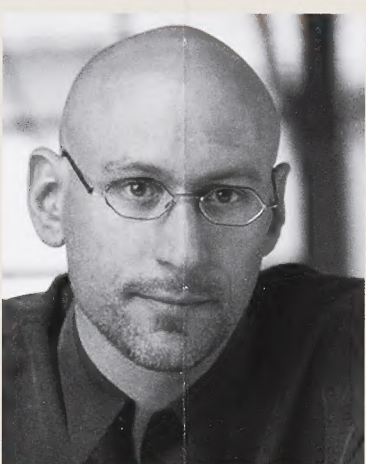
Sigrid Nunez



Carl Phillips



Danzy Senna



David Shields



Helena María Viamontes



Paul Lisicky, special guest

Michael Collier, Director
Jennifer Grotz, Asst. Director

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Linda Pastan, special guest